

## REVENUE DEPARTMENT[701]

### Notice of Intended Action

**Twenty-five interested persons, a governmental subdivision, an agency or association of 25 or more persons may demand an oral presentation hereon as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.4(1)“b.”**

**Notice is also given to the public that the Administrative Rules Review Committee may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this proposed action under section 17A.8(6) at a regular or special meeting where the public or interested persons may be heard.**

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code section 421.17, the Department of Revenue hereby gives Notice of Intended Action to amend Chapter 71, “Assessment Practices and Equalization,” Iowa Administrative Code.

Item 1 amends rule 701—71.3(421,428,441), valuation of agricultural real estate, to remove the Iowa Crop and Livestock Reporting Service as a potential source of data for assessors, which is no longer an applicable agency. The rule lists other sources of data derived from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Item 2 rescinds subrule 71.12(1), determination of aggregate actual values, and adopts a new subrule from which references to the Iowa Crop and Livestock Reporting Service and specific divisions of the USDA have been removed. The subrule lists other sources of data derived from the USDA. In addition, the new subrule incorporates the numbering system required in the Iowa Administrative Code.

The proposed amendments will not necessitate additional expenditures by political subdivisions or agencies and entities which contract with political subdivisions.

Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of these amendments would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Department for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any.

The Department has determined that these proposed amendments may have an impact on small business. The Department has considered the factors listed in Iowa Code section 17A.4A. The Department will issue a regulatory analysis as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.4A if a written request is filed by delivery or by mailing postmarked no later than November 8, 2010, to the Policy Section, Taxpayer Service and Policy Division, Department of Revenue, Hoover State Office Building, P.O. Box 10457, Des Moines, Iowa 50306. The request may be made by the Administrative Rules Review Committee, the Administrative Rules Coordinator, at least 25 persons signing that request who each qualify as a small business or an organization representing at least 25 such persons.

Any interested person may make written suggestions or comments on these proposed amendments on or before October 26, 2010. Such written comments should be directed to the Policy Section, Taxpayer Service and Policy Division, Department of Revenue, Hoover State Office Building, P.O. Box 10457, Des Moines, Iowa 50306.

Persons who wish to convey their views orally should contact the Policy Section, Taxpayer Service and Policy Division, Department of Revenue, at (515)281-8036 or at the Department of Revenue offices on the fourth floor of the Hoover State Office Building.

Requests for a public hearing must be received by October 26, 2010.

These amendments are intended to implement Iowa Code chapter 441.

The following amendments are proposed.

ITEM 1. Amend rule 701—71.3(421,428,441) as follows:

**701—71.3(421,428,441) Valuation of agricultural real estate.** Agricultural real estate shall be assessed at its actual value as defined in Iowa Code section 441.21 by giving exclusive consideration to its productivity and net earning capacity. In determining the actual value of agricultural real estate, city and county assessors shall use the “Iowa Real Property Appraisal Manual” and any other guidelines issued by the department of revenue pursuant to Iowa Code section 421.17(18).

**71.3(1) *Productivity.*** In determining the productivity and net earning capacity of agricultural real estate, the assessor shall also use available data from Iowa State University, ~~the Iowa crop and livestock reporting service,~~ the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Agricultural Statistics Service, the USDA Farm Service Agency, the Iowa department of revenue, or other reliable sources. The assessor shall also consider the results of a modern soil survey, if completed. The assessor shall determine the actual valuation of agricultural real estate within the assessing jurisdiction and spread such valuation throughout the jurisdiction so that each parcel of real estate is assessed at its actual value as defined in Iowa Code section 441.21.

**71.3(2) *Agricultural factor.*** In order to determine a productivity value for agricultural buildings and structures, assessors must make an agricultural adjustment to the market value of these buildings and structures by developing an “agricultural factor” for the assessors’ jurisdictions. The agricultural factor for each jurisdiction is the product of the ratio of the productivity and net earning capacity value per acre as determined under subrule 71.12(1) over the market value of agricultural land within the assessing jurisdiction. The resulting ratio is then applied to the actual value of the agricultural buildings and structures as determined under the Iowa Real Property Appraisal Manual prepared by the department. The agricultural factor must be applied uniformly to all agricultural buildings and structures in the assessing jurisdiction. As an example, if a building’s actual value is \$500,000 and the agricultural factor is 30 percent, the productivity value of that building is \$150,000. See *H & R Partnership v. Davis County Board of Review*, 654 N.W.2d 521 (Iowa 2002). The 2007, 2008, and 2009 average of the market value of land will be used in determining the agricultural factor for assessment year 2011. A five-year market value average of land for years used to determine the productivity formula will be used to determine the agricultural factor for assessment year 2013 and subsequent assessment years.

**71.3(3) *Classification.*** Land classified as agricultural real estate includes the land beneath any dwelling and appurtenant structures located on that land and shall be valued by the assessor pursuant to rule 701—71.3(421,428,441). An assessor shall not value a part of the land as agricultural real estate and a part of the land as if it is residential real estate.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 421.17, 428.4 and 441.21.

ITEM 2. Rescind subrule 71.12(1) and adopt the following **new** subrule in lieu thereof:

**71.12(1) *Agricultural real estate.***

*a. Use of income capitalization study.* The equalized valuation of agricultural realty shall be based upon its productivity and net earning capacity and shall be determined in accordance with the provisions of this subrule. Data used shall pertain to crops harvested during the five-year period ending with the calendar year in which assessments were last equalized. The equalized valuation of agricultural realty shall be determined for each county as follows:

(1) Computation of county acres. This information shall be obtained from the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service.

1. Total acres in farms: Total acreage used for agricultural purposes.
2. Corn acres: Sum of corn acres harvested including silage, popcorn and acres planted for sorghum.
3. Oats and wheat acres: Sum of oats and wheat acres harvested.
4. Soybean acres: Soybean acres harvested.
5. Hay acres: All hay acres harvested.
6. Pasture acres: All pasture acres. Total pasture acres shall be determined by multiplying the total acres in farms reported by the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service by the percentage which total pasture land as reported in the most recent U.S. Census of Agriculture bears to the total acreage in farmland also reported in the most recent U.S. Census of Agriculture. The amount of tillable and nontillable pasture acres shall be determined as follows:

1.	From the most recent U.S. Census of Agriculture obtain the following:		
	Cropland used only for pasture and grazing	_____	acres
	Woodland pasture	_____	acres
	Pasture land and rangeland (other than cropland and woodland pasture)	_____	acres
	TOTAL PASTURE LAND (total of above):	_____	acres
2.	Determine what percentage of the total pasture land is cropland used only for pasture:	_____	%
3.	Apply the percentage in "2" above to the 5-year average total acres of pasture as determined above to determine the pasture acres to be classified as tillable pasture. The remainder of the 5-year average shall be classified as nontillable pasture land.	_____	acres

7. Government programs: Determine the 5-year average acres participating in applicable government programs. Obtain data from the USDA Farm Service Agency, including but not limited to acreage devoted to the Payment-In-Kind (PIK), diverted and deficiency programs.

8. Other acres: The difference between the total acreage for land uses listed above and the total of all land in farms. Add the total of the corn, oats, soybeans, hay, tillable and nontillable pasture and diverted acres. Subtract this total from total acres in farms. The residual is classified as other acres.

(2) Computation of county yields. This information shall be obtained for each county from the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service.

1. Corn yield (including silage): Number of bushels of corn harvested for grain per acre.

2. Oat yield (including wheat): Number of bushels of oats harvested per acre.

3. Soybean yield: Number of bushels per acre harvested.

4. Hay yield in tons: Number of tons per acre harvested.

(3) Computation of county gross income.

1. Corn: One-half of the 5-year average production multiplied by the 5-year average price received for corn.

2. Silage: One-half of the 5-year average number of acres devoted to the production of silage multiplied by the 5-year average production per acre for corn. The amount of production so determined shall be added to the 5-year average production for corn and included in the determination of the gross income for corn.

3. Soybeans: One-half of the 5-year average production multiplied by the 5-year average price received.

4. Oats: One-half of the 5-year average production of oats and wheat multiplied by the 5-year average price received for oats.

5. Price adjustment: For corn, soybeans, hay, and oats, the prices used shall be as obtained from the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service and shall be adjusted to reflect any individual county price conditions prior to the 2007 crop year. For the 2007 crop year and later, the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service district prices shall be used and shall be adjusted to reflect any individual county price conditions.

6. Government programs: Gross income shall be one-half of the 5-year average amount of cash payments or equivalent (such as PIK bushels) including but not limited to diverted, deficiency and PIK programs as reported by the USDA Farm Service Agency.

7. Hay: Gross income shall be a cash rent amount determined by multiplying the 5-year average number of acres devoted to hay by the product obtained by multiplying one-fourth of the 5-year average hay yield by the 5-year average price received for all types of hay.

8. Tillable pasture: Gross income shall be a cash rent amount determined by multiplying the 5-year average number of acres devoted to tillable pasture by the product obtained in “hay” above.

9. Nontillable pasture: Gross income shall be a cash rent amount determined by multiplying the 5-year average number of acres devoted to nontillable pasture by one-half the product obtained in “hay” above.

10. Other acres: Income shall be the product of the number of other acres multiplied by 17 percent of the net income per acre for all other land uses.

(4) Computation of county production costs. The following data and procedures shall be used to determine specific county production costs.

1. Basic average landlord production costs. Landlord production costs for corn, soybeans, oats, diverted acres, hay, tillable pasture, nontillable pasture, fertilizer costs, and facilities’ costs shall be obtained for each year from Iowa State University.

2. Production cost adjustment. The production costs for corn, soybeans, oats, and hay are adjusted for each county by multiplying the difference between the 5-year state average yield per acre and the 5-year county average yield per acre by the 5-year average facilities’ costs. If a county’s yield exceeds the state yield, production costs are increased by this amount. If a county’s yield is less than the state yield, production costs are reduced by this amount.

3. Fertilizer cost adjustment. The adjustment for fertilizer costs is determined as follows: Multiply the difference between the 5-year state average corn yield per acre and the 5-year county average corn yield per acre obtained from the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service by the fertilizer cost amount per bushel determined by dividing the statewide average cost of landlord’s share of fertilizer cost per acre from Iowa State University by the statewide average corn yield per acre to produce the corn fertilizer cost per bushel adjustment. This amount is then multiplied by the 5-year county average corn acres determined in (2) above.

4. Expense adjustments. If a county’s 5-year average corn yield is greater than the state 5-year average corn yield, this amount is allowed as an additional expense. If the county’s average is less than the state average, this amount is an expense reduction.

5. Liability insurance cost adjustment. The 5-year average per acre cost of obtaining tort liability insurance shall be determined.

(5) Computation of county net income. From the total gross income, subtract the total expenses. Divide the resulting total by the total number of acres.

(6) Computation of dwelling adjustment factor. The amount determined in (5) above shall be reduced by 10.6 percent.

(7) Computation of county tax adjustment. Subtract the 5-year average per acre real estate taxes levied for land and structures including drainage and levee district taxes but excluding those levied against agricultural dwellings from the amount determined in (6) above. Taxes shall be the tax levied for collection during the 5-year period as reported by county auditors, and reduced by the amount of the agricultural land tax credit.

(8) Calculation of county valuation per acre. Divide the net income per acre ((7) above) for each county as determined above by the capitalization rate specified in Iowa Code section 441.21. The quotient shall be the actual per acre equalized valuation of agricultural land and structures for the current equalization year.

*b. Use of other relevant data.* The director may also consider other relevant data, including field investigations conducted by representatives of the department of revenue, to determine the level of assessment of agricultural real estate.

*c. Determination of value.* The aggregate actual value of agricultural real estate in each county shall be determined by multiplying the equalized per acre value by the number of acres of agricultural real estate reported on the abstract of assessment for the current year, adjusted where necessary by the results of any field investigations conducted by the department of revenue and any other relevant data available.